

STRIKE IS AVERTED

GERMAN SUBS SINK THREE UNITED STATES STEAMERS: COUNTRY IN STATE OF WAR

New York, March 19.—Eighty-five Americans, comprising a large majority of the crews, were aboard the three American steamers *Vigilancia*, *City of Memphis* and *Hilma*, sunk by German submarines on Saturday and Sunday in the blockade zone. The latest information here is that 14 men are missing from the *Vigilancia* and eight from the *City of Memphis*. The crew of the *Hilma* was landed safely.

The *City of Memphis* left Cardiff, Wales, in ballast for New York. She encountered the submarine *Schleswig* on Saturday and the crew was given 15 minutes to take to the water. The vessel was towed by the *City of Memphis* and was taken to New York. She was damaged and was towed to New York. She was damaged and was towed to New York.

HALT MUSTERING OUT OF SOLDIERS IN MIDDLE WEST

Chicago, March 19.—Orders issued today by Major General Thomas H. Barry, commander of the central department of the United States army, suspending all mustering out of troops in the central department "subject to further notice."

There are six regiments of state troops in the central department awaiting the orders to be mustered out. They are: The Second Ohio at Fort Sheridan; the Eighth and Fifth Ohio at Fort Riley; the Thirty-first and the Thirty-second Michigan at Fort Wayne; and the Second Iowa at Fort Des Moines.

Washington, March 19.—The United States today faced the pressing question of war with Germany over the immediate issue of the ruthless destruction of three unarmed American merchant ships. Some officials here already have a technical opinion that Germany has committed the "overt act" which precipitates a virtual state of war.

The next step beyond the arming of merchantmen, now going forward, is the dispatch of warships to clear the trans-Atlantic lanes of submarines.

President Wilson was considering carefully all courses open to him. He might continue arming merchantmen, as at present, until the special session of congress called for April 15; he might summon congress to meet immediately to authorize him to take aggressive action against the submarine menace; or he might declare forthwith that a state of war exists. The war and navy departments particularly were confronted anew with problems of precisely what plans they shall follow if war comes.

Washington, March 19.—It was authoritatively stated today at the war department that demobilization of the national guard would continue as planned, and that delays in the mustering out of troops in certain districts resulted from local conditions.

DECISION OF COURT BACKS 8-HOUR LAW

Adamson Measure Is Held Constitutional and Valid in All Respects.

AFFECTS 400,000 MEN

Will Cost Roads Millions—Reverses Ruling of the Missouri Judge.

Washington, March 19.—The Adamson eight-hour railroad law was held constitutional and valid in all respects today by the supreme court. The decision makes eight hours the standard of a day's work and wages for men in operation of trains and legalizes the wage increases which went into tentative effect on its passage.

The immediate temporary wage increases won by the railroad employees affect 400,000 trainmen, as of Jan. 1, and are estimated to total between \$40,000,000 and \$50,000,000.

The decision was five to four. Justices Day, Pitney and Van Devanter announced their dissent from the bench and later Justice McReynolds announced his.

WILSON'S MEDIATORS WIN VICTORY FOR TRAINMEN IN FIGHT FOR EIGHT HOUR DAY

RUSS REVOLT OPENS DOORS TO AMERICA

Expect Trading Treaty to Be Reenacted—Jews to Get Equal Rights.

London, March 19.—Home rule for Finland is the policy of Russia, according to a Reuter correspondent, writing from Tammerfors, Finland's greatest manufacturing city. General Zein, governor of Finland under the old regime, has been sent to Petrograd as a prisoner.

Petrograd, Sunday, March 18, 6 p. m. (via London March 19, 11 a. m.)—A new impetus to commercial intercourse between Russia and America is a result expected to grow out of the revolution.

New York, March 19.—The railroad strike has been averted. Yielding to the appeal of President Wilson and facing the probability of this country's entrance into the world war, the railroads early today granted the demands of the four employees' brotherhoods for a basic eight hour day. The telegraph wires today are carrying throughout the United States messages from the brotherhood chiefs rescinding the orders for the inauguration of the great progressive strike at 7 o'clock tonight.

The decision is regarded as a complete surrender to the brotherhoods, brought about, however, after the patriotism of the railroad managers had been put to the test. The president's mediators, playing what they considered their last trump card, were not successful in their mission until after more than fifty hours of anxious conferences, all of which pointed within a short time before the decision was announced to an inevitable deadlock.

Secretary of the Interior Lane and the other mediators were visibly affected when told of the action of the committee of the railroads and, turning to Elisha Lee, their spokesman, said: "This is a magnificent thing you have done for your country. It will go down in history as one of the greatest things you ever did."

TEUTON LOSS TO ENTENTE IS ADMITTED

Berlin Report Tells of Evacuation on French Front—Retreat Goes On.

Berlin, March 19, by wireless to Sayville.—Evacuation of territory over a wide sector on the French front extending from Arras to the Aisne river is announced by the German war office.

Several lines of French trenches over an extent of 500 metres in one sector and 800 metres in another on the Verdun front were stormed yesterday by the Germans. Nearly 200 French prisoners were taken.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline and vicinity.

Partly sunny tonight and Tuesday, warmer tonight with the lowest temperature about 10 below freezing; fresh southwest wind.

Temperature at 7 a. m. 27, highest yesterday 30, lowest last night 22.

Velocity of wind at 7 a. m. 12 miles per hour.

Forecast none.

Stage of water, R. I. a fall of 1.3 feet in last 24 hours.

J. M. WHEELER, Meteorologist.

Latest Bulletins

Peking, March 19.—Chinese troops have occupied without opposition the German concessions at Tien Tsin and Hankow. The Dutch have taken over the German consulates.

London, March 19.—A British destroyer and a merchant vessel were sunk and another destroyer was damaged by the German naval raid at Ramsgate, the admiralty announced today.

New York, March 19.—Twenty-six mail bags addressed to Washington and the British embassy at Washington were found to have been rifled on board the Cunard liner Saxonia upon her arrival here today.

London, March 19.—Premier Lloyd George today announced in the house of commons that on Thursday he could move a motion of congratulation to the Russian duma.

HUNDREDS DIE IN GERMAN EXPLOSION

Copenhagen, March 19.—A large munitions factory at Cologne blew up on Tuesday, according to information received from German sources by a newspaper at Kolding, near the frontier. Several hundred workmen are reported to have perished.

Agreement That Averts Nation-Wide Rail Strike

New York, March 19.—The agreement signed by the representatives of the brotherhoods, the roads and by the commission reads as follows:

In all road service except passenger, where schedules now read "eight within 10 hours," it will be amended to read "eight within 10 hours."

For all classes of employees in short turn-around passenger service, where the rule now reads "eight within 12 hours," it will be amended to read "eight within 10 hours."

For such territory as has no number of hours for a day's work, in short turn-around passenger service, the eight within 10-hour rule applies. Overtime to be paid for at not less than one-eighth of the daily rate per hour.

The general committee on individual railroads may elect to retain their present overtime rules in short turn-around passenger service, or the foregoing provisions of both to produce greater compensation than is provided in either basis.

In the event the law is held to be constitutional, if the foregoing settlement is inconsistent with the decision of the court, that application will be adjusted to the decision. If declared unconstitutional, the above stands with all the provisions as written.

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